6-12-2015

SLIDES: Never Let a Crisis Go to Waste

Lester Snow

Never Let a Crisis Go to Waste

Martz Conference June 12, 2015

CALIFORNIA WATER FOUNDATION®

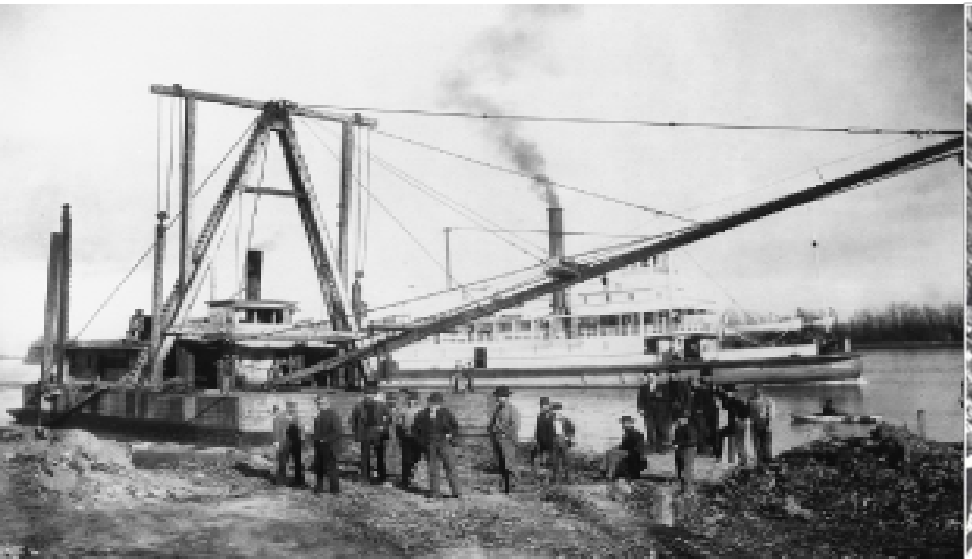
An initiative of Resources Legacy Fund

Discussion Outline

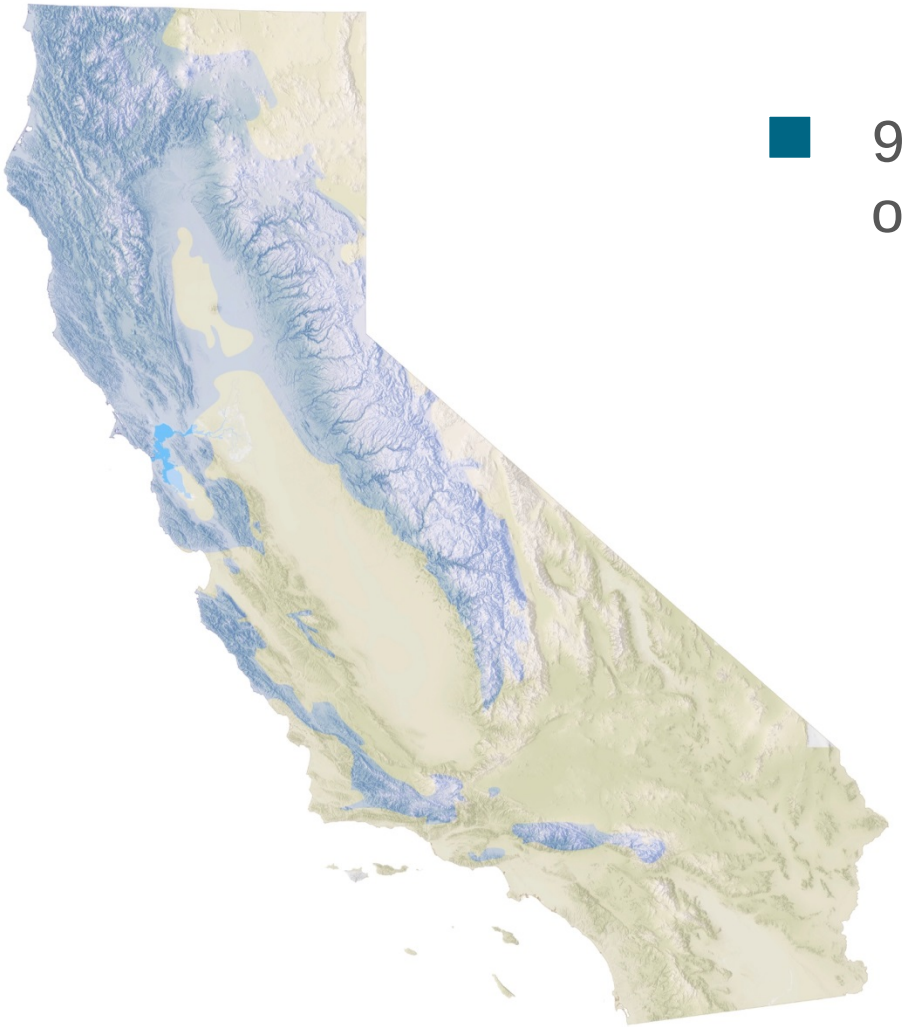
- Historical Water Development
- Current Challenges & Opportunities
- Groundwater and Beyond

Historical Context

- Swamp and Overflow Act
- Central Valley Flood System
- Water System Development



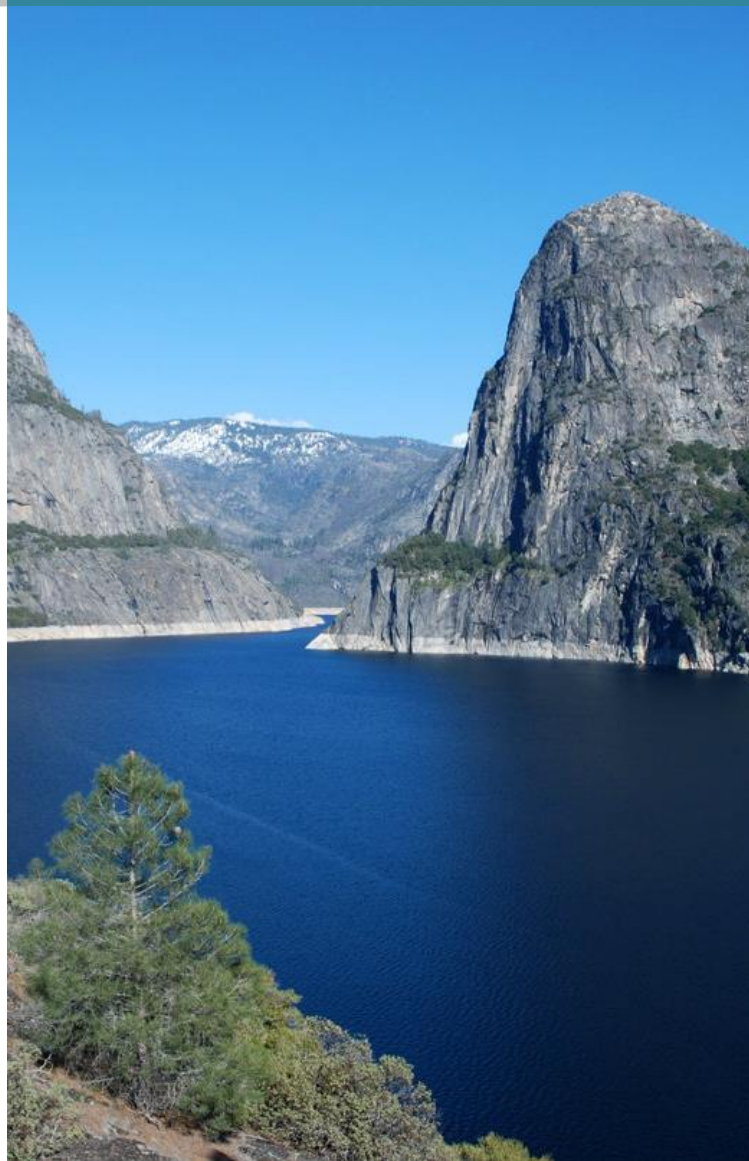
California Water Systems



- 90% of annual runoff occurs in 40% of the state

California Water Systems

California Water Systems



California Water Systems

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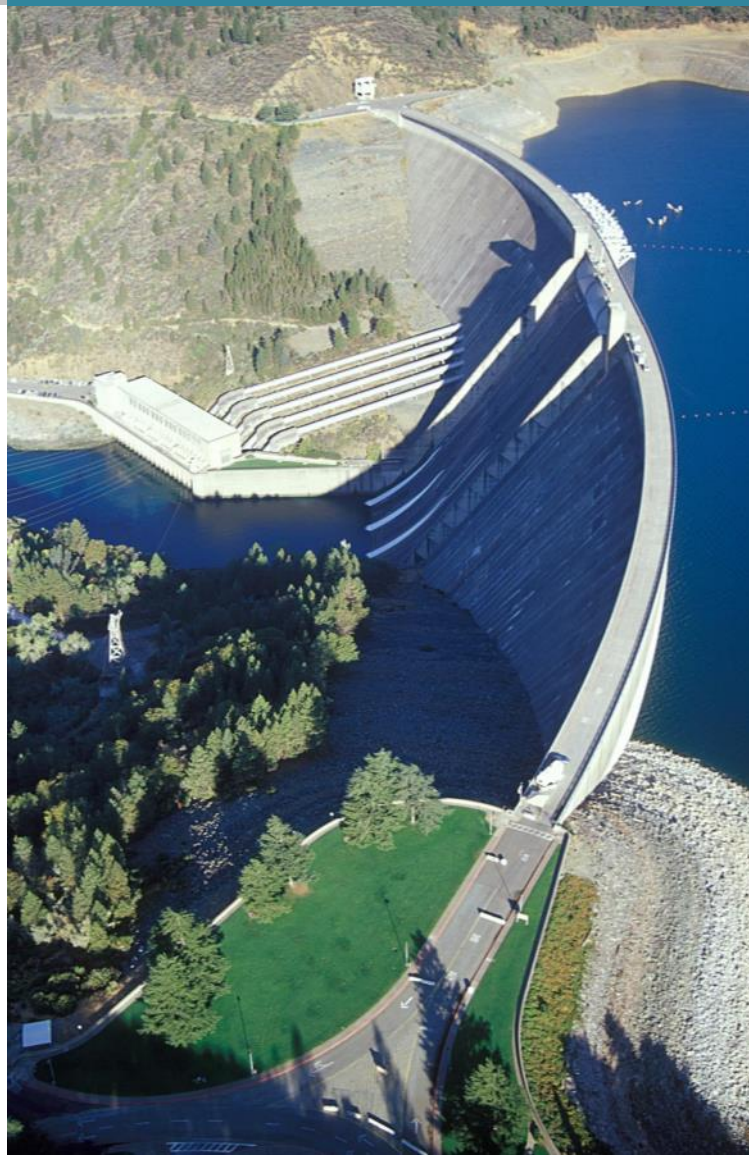


California Water Systems

California Water Systems

- Fueled California economy
- All had unintended consequences
- All are less reliable today

Water System Challenges

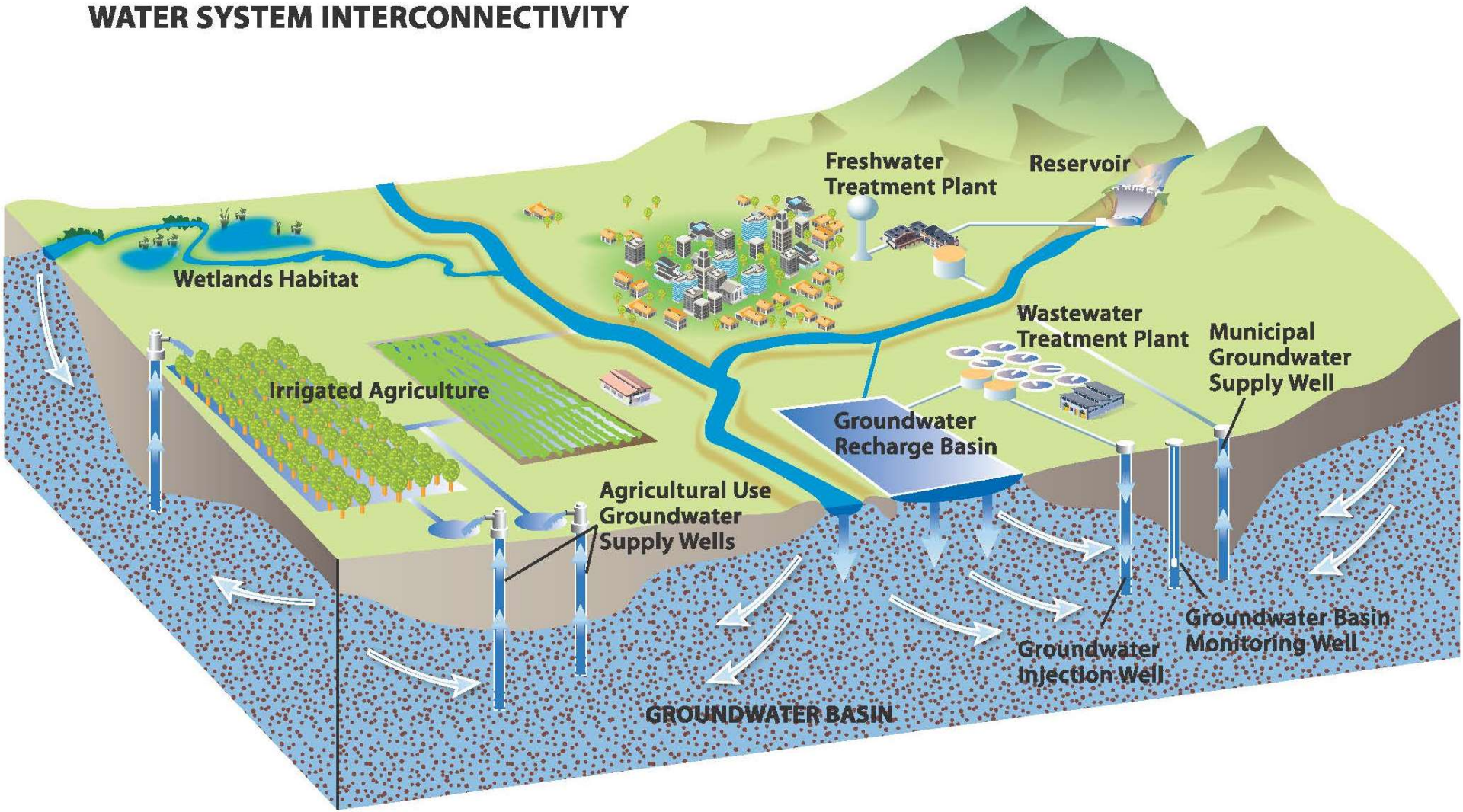
- Increasing Population
- Aging infrastructure
- Groundwater Overdraft
- Degraded ecosystems
- Increasing conflict
- Uncertainty due to climate change



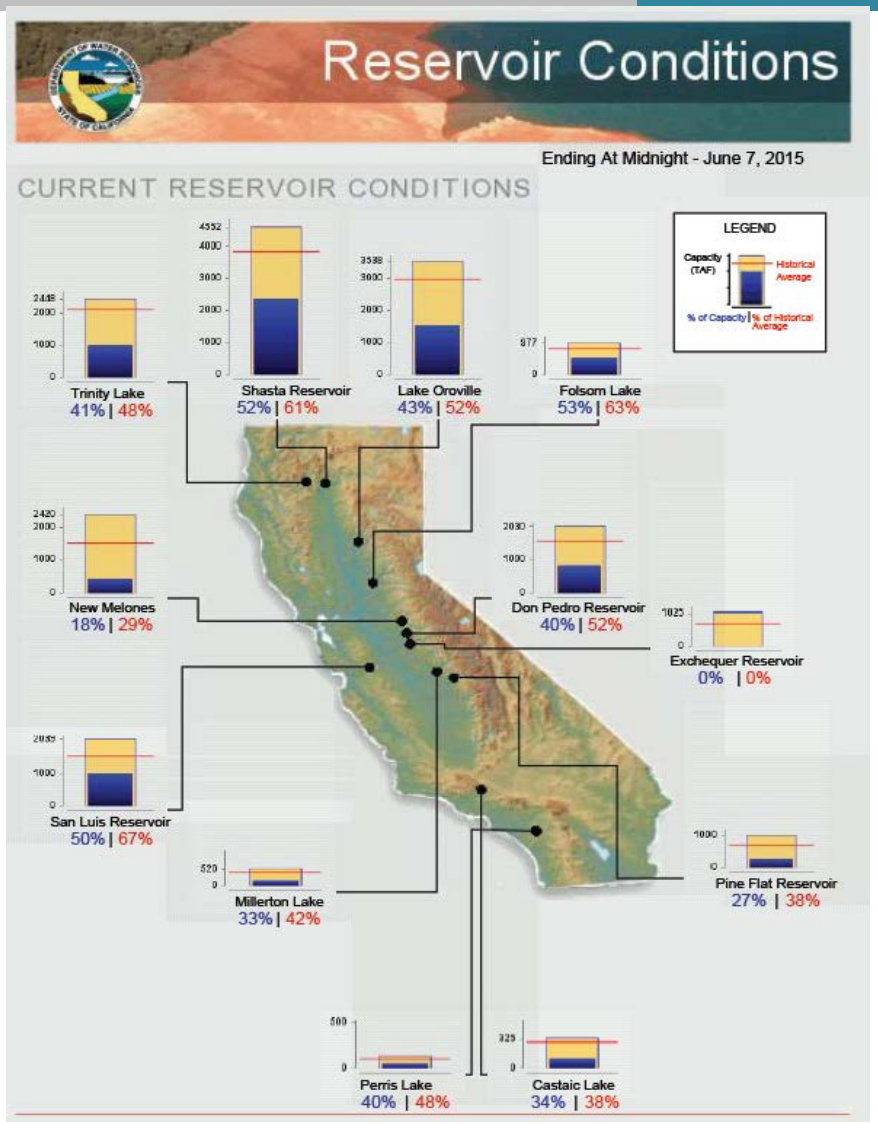
Addressing the Challenge

- Achieving sustainable water management through:
  - Integrated Water Management
  - Groundwater Management
  - Urban Water Use Efficiency
  - Stormwater Capture
  - Recycled Water
  - Reservoir Reoperation
  - Flood Management

Integrated Water Management

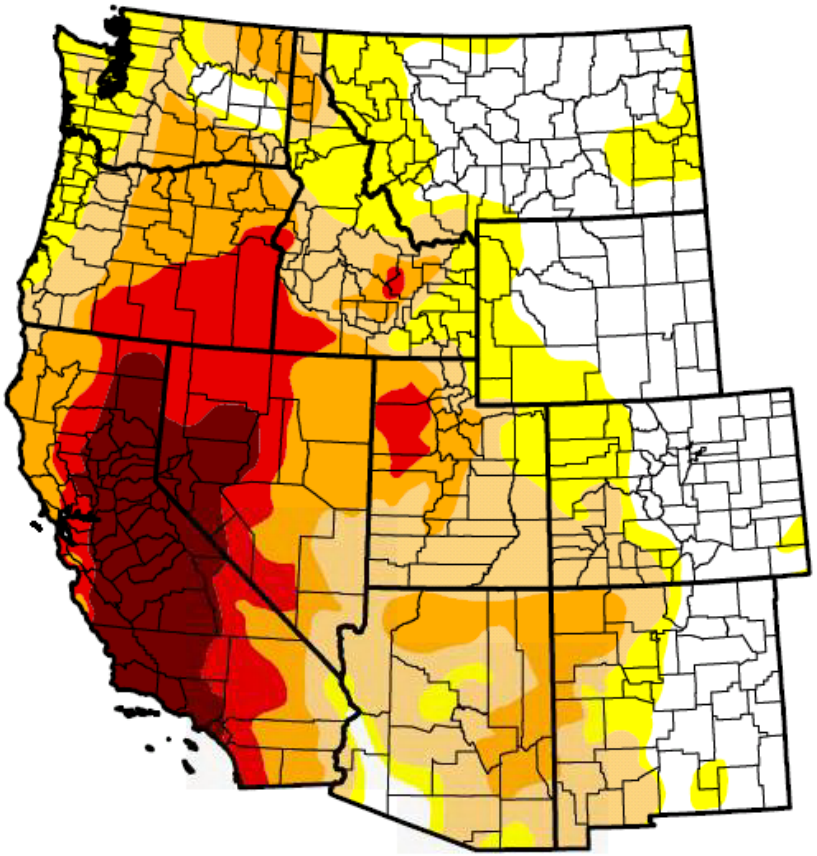


California Water Systems



California Water Systems

U.S. Drought Monitor
West



June 2, 2015
(Released Thursday, Jun. 4, 2015)
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	25.23	74.77	56.98	35.92	17.99	7.94
Last Week 5/26/2015	25.37	74.63	57.03	35.92	17.59	7.94
3 Months Ago 3/3/2015	29.95	70.05	59.79	29.48	16.62	7.04
Start of Calendar Year 12/30/2014	34.76	65.24	54.48	33.50	18.68	5.40
Start of Water Year 9/30/2014	31.48	68.52	55.57	35.65	19.95	8.90
One Year Ago 6/3/2014	31.84	68.16	60.32	47.21	20.20	4.31

Intensity:

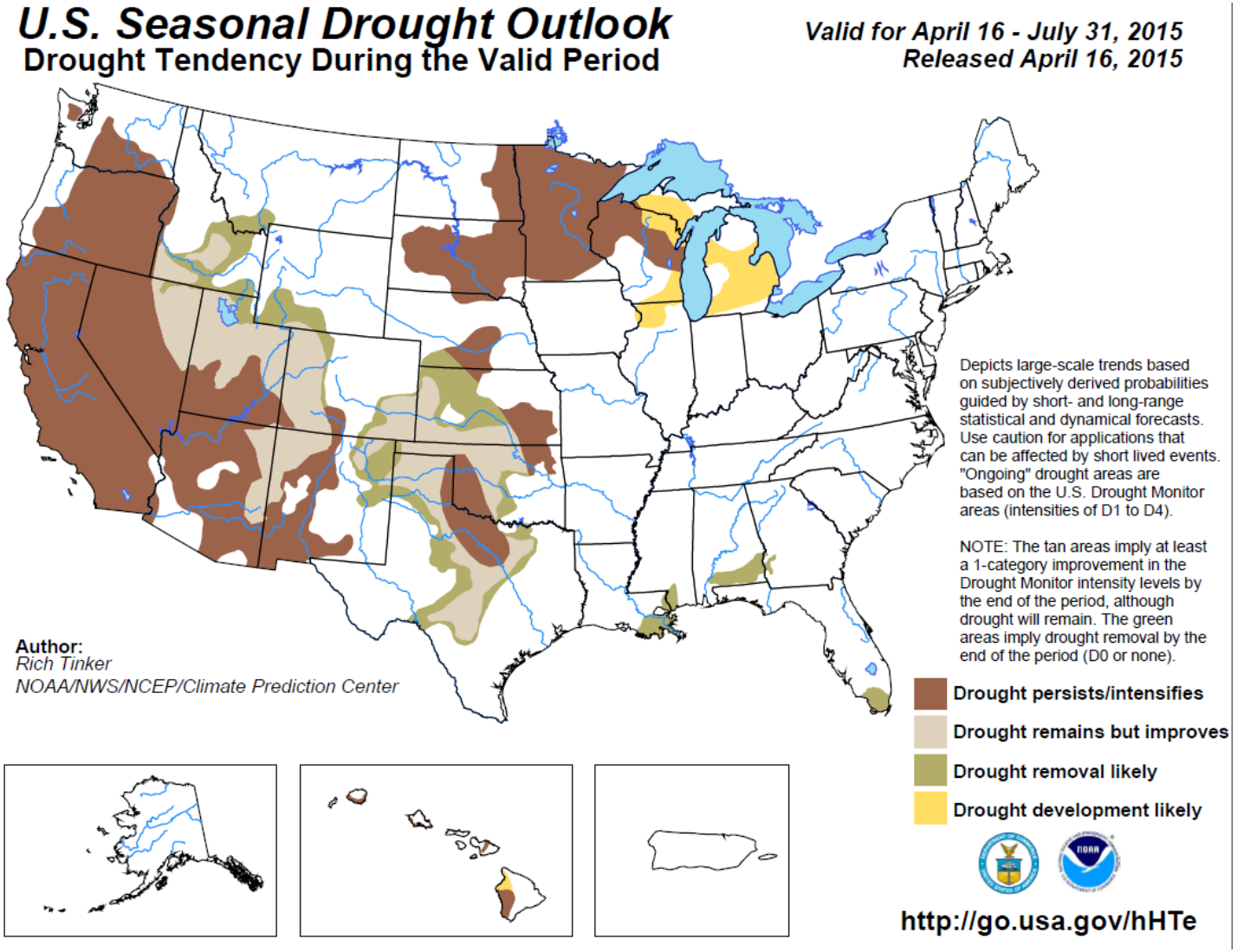
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

Author:
David Miskus
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/

Drought Forecast



Half Dome March 19, 2011

Half Dome March 19, 2012

Half Dome March 19, 2013

Half Dome March 19, 2014

Half Dome March 19, 2015

Groundwater in Context

- 40% of supply in an average year; 60% in dry
- Critical part of integrated management
- Flexible source for storage and use



Groundwater in Context

- Several decades of increasing use
  - Reduction in surface supplies
  - Hardening of demand
- Increasing landowner conflicts

Problems With Overdraft

- Subsidence threatens infrastructure
- Reduced water for species
- Reduced surface supplies
- Increased drilling/pumping costs
- Increased costs for taxpayers, business, farmers



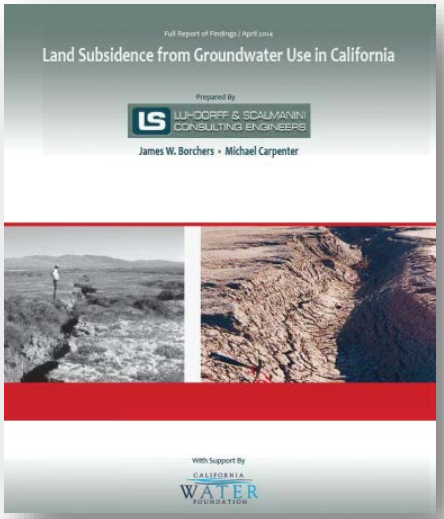
CWF Groundwater Efforts

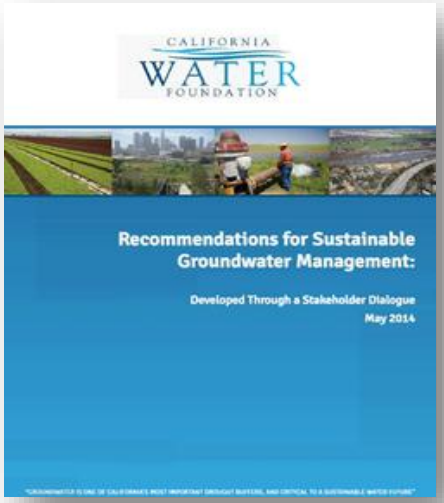
- Develop and Protect Leadership
- Reframe the Debate/Compelling Information
- New Coalitions
- Policy Reform

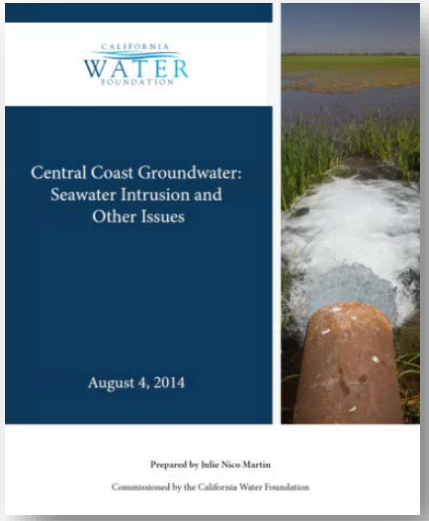


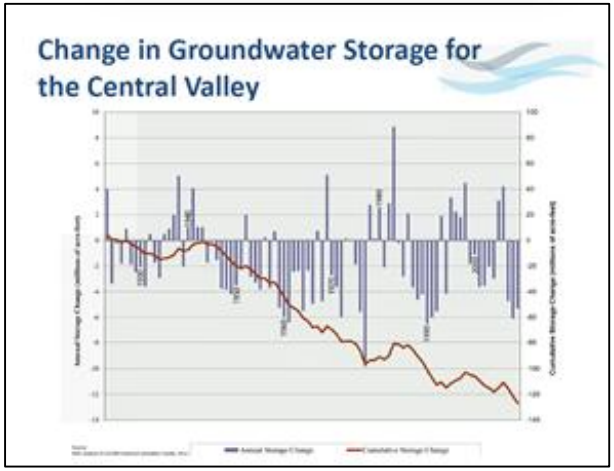
Reframing the Debate

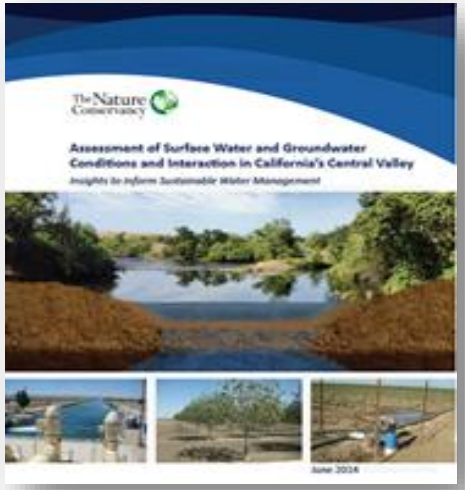
Compelling Information

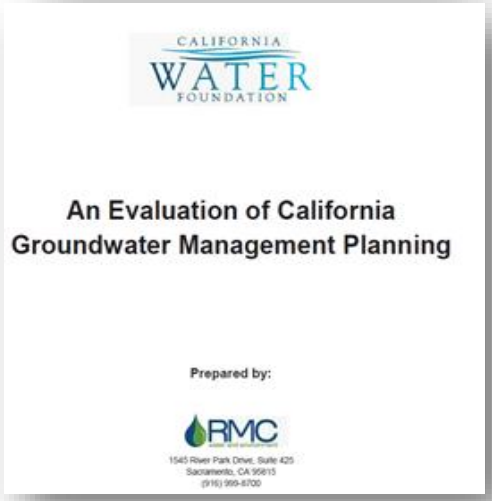




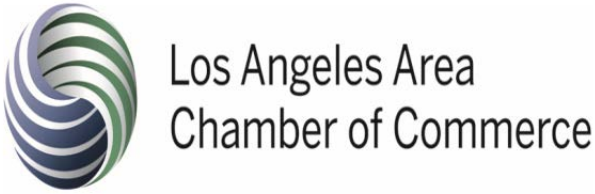








Coalitions & Support



Media Statistics: Editorials and Op-eds

- **18 positive editorials statewide**
  - 4 supporting groundwater reform
  - 12 supporting specific legislation
  - 2 urging Governor to sign bills
  - 4 million print impressions, 31 million online
- **13 positive opinion pieces published**
  - 5 by Groundwater Voices
  - 4 by Lester Snow
  - 4 by other supportive orgs, individuals
  - 750k print impressions, 1 million online

Los Angeles Times

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL. WSJ

The Fresno Bee

DailyNews LOS ANGELES

THE SACRAMENTO BEE

San Francisco Chronicle

New nameplate for an old paper

San Jose Mercury News

MERCED SUN-STAR

Media Statistics:
News Articles

- More than 70 articles mentioned California Water Foundation efforts to reform groundwater policy
- More than 130 positive articles posted to Groundwater Voices website
- More than 200 million print and online impressions garnered from earned media efforts

Groundwater Policy

- 1961 Legislative Report
- 1978 Commission Report
- ACWA 2011 Report
- ACWA 2014 Recommendations
- CWF Steering Committee Outreach
- CWF Recommendations

Groundwater in Context (Cont.)

- Several decades of increasing use
  - Reduction in surface supplies
  - Hardening of demand
- Increasing landowner conflicts

SGMA Outline

- Definitions
- Local Empowerment
  - Jurisdiction and Basin Priority (exempts adjudicated basins)
  - Plan Requirements
  - Authorities
- State Role
  - Assistance
  - Plan Review
  - Back-Stop

Time Frame for Success

Time	Action
6/30/2017	Formation of GSAs
1/31/2020	Completion of GSPs in critically overdrafted basins
1/31/2022	Completion of GSPs in all other basins
20-year implementation period	Implementation of GSPs under local management

Taking these actions shields local managers from state intervention

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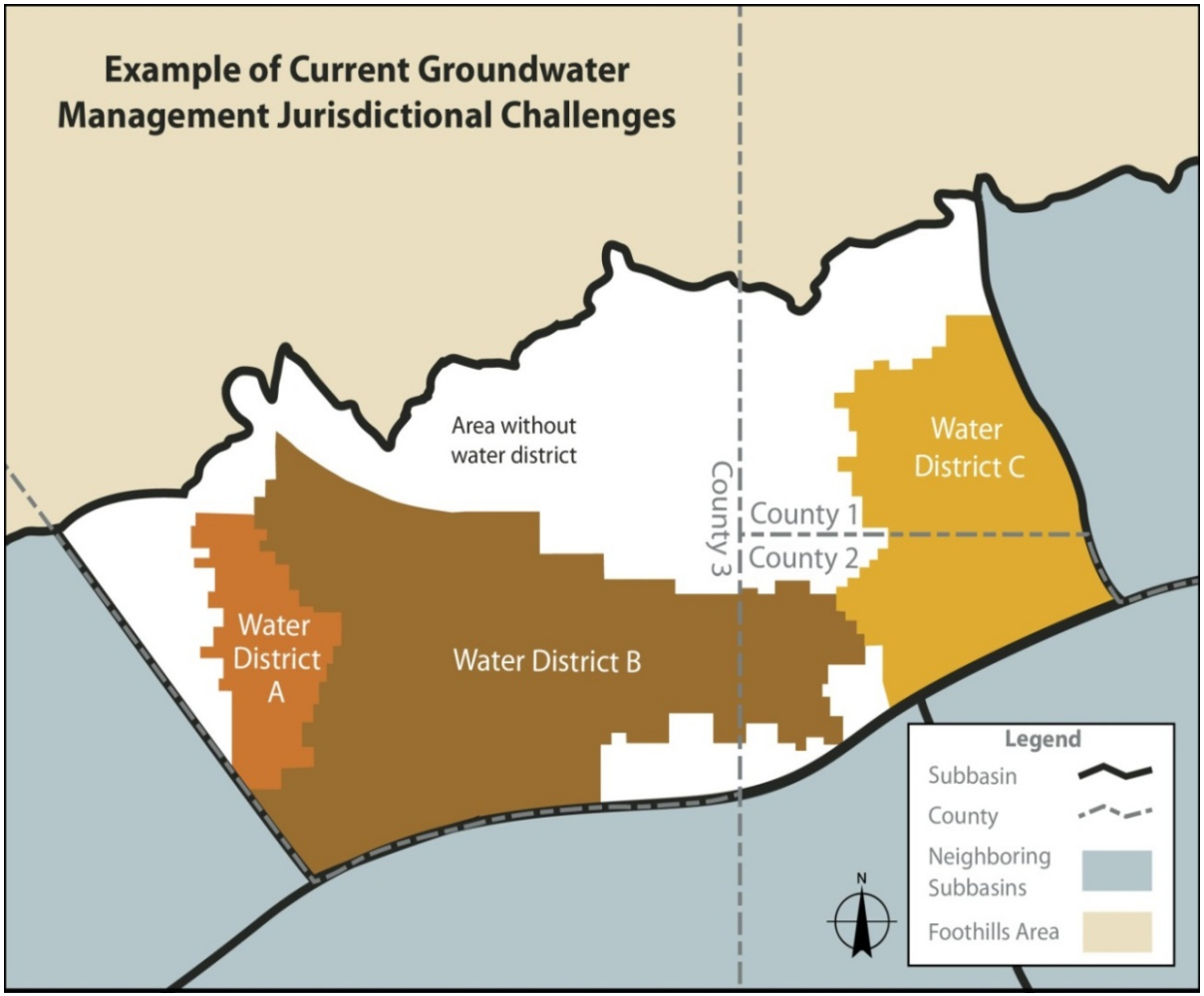
Jurisdiction Formation



SGMA Implementation

- Early Adopters
- “Clean Up” Legislation
- State Regulations
- Bond Funding
- Drought Pressure and Conflict



Integrated Water Management